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# **GUNS ALONG MEUSE** ROAR GRAND FINALE OF ELEVENTH HOUUR

Cheers and Flares Succeed Americans Take Suburb of Momentary Silence at Last Zero

# FINAL WEEK NO JOY RIDE FOE'S VITAL LINK SEVERED

Front to Find It's All Over but the Shouting

At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month hostilities came to an end from Switzer! nd to the Early that morning, from the wire-

came to an end from Switzer. Int to the sea. Early that morning, from the wireless station on the Elifel Tower in Paris, there had gone forth through the air to the wondering, half-incredulous line that the Americans held from near Sedan to the Moselle the order from Mizrisal Foch to cease firing on the stroke of 11.

On the stroke of 11 the cannon stopped, the rifles dropped from the shoulders, the machine guns grew still. There followed then a strange, unbelievable silence as though the world had died. It lasted but a moment, lasted for the space that a breath is held. Then came such an uproar of relief and jubilance, such a tooting of horns, shrieking of whistles, such an overture from the bands and trains and church bells, such a shoutting of voices as the earth is not likely to hear again in our day and generation.

and generation.
Then night fell on the battlefield the nor of the celebration waxed rather a waned. Darkness? There was none, kets and a ceaseless fountain of star its made the lines a streak of giorious Rockets and a ceaseless fountain of star shells made the lines a streak of glorious brilliance across the face of startied France, while, by the light of fares, the front and all its dancing, boasting, sing-ing peoples was as clearly visible as though the sun sat high in the heavens.

### Germans Celebrate as Well

y atong the up and sniffling and scur-as they waited for the morning cof-it spread along the chains of sing-road menders, along the creeping mus of camions. Driver called it to er and runners tossed the word over reshoulders as they hurried by. Now

"The guerre will be finee at 11 lock. Finee la guerre." You could hear it called out again and

"Say, you, what time is it now?"
They took it a little incredulously at
rst. That was old stuff, that rumor.

aggerated, but we permitted no such as ight discovery to spoil our day, and the United States certainly made a noise such as never before shook the Western Hemisphere.

It was no tamely preconcerted affair. We did it at once without waiting for the other fellow to suggest it. We just got up and shook our jobs, whether banking, selling, street sweeping or housekeeping, and went forth. We filled every principal street of every city in America. We wiggled cowbells, tooted borns, backfired every motor engine, rang every church bell, let loose every wilste, kissed every willing girl, and altogether had a day we will never be in the least ashamed of.

Cittes were solidly jammed with people and vehicular traffic was calmly but inexorably put out of business for the day. In New York City the motor cars; had to take to the sidewalk to escape from Fifth avenue. The skyscrapers beliched forth such prodigles of ticker tape and paper that the city was kneedeep in scraps.

The police were helpless everywhere, and finally gave up and let the cities to the people, who did exactly what they leased and had the biggest time of their lives without disturbance or trouble. The next day 25,000 shipworkers, not content with the first day, irrupted into town and made a second day of it.

Now we are like the kid that had Christmas ahead of time, but we don't care.

# **VICTORIOUS YANKS** YIELD TO POILUS AT SEDAN'S GATES

City That Saw Fall of Napoleon III

Private George W. Legion Reaches Units Which Held Line When Firing Ceased Include Many Veteran A.E.F. Divisions

> the advancing troops of the First American Army found along all the mined and

muddy roads which led northward to the west of the Meuse.

Nach Sedan! Every battalion commander, cook, every doughboy, as he trudged along those highways had it in the bottom of his heart and the back of his mind that, come what may, he was going to Sedan.

That is why its name was on every lip as the troops swept on, their lines and the lines of General Gouraud's army con-verging on the city as the sticks of a fan converge at the handle. American dias the troops swent on, their lines and the lines of General Gourand's army converging on the city as the sticks of a fan converge at the handle. American divisions jostled cach other and trod on each other's toes, seeming fairly to race one another to the precious goal. But it was not on the cards that my American troops should take theelty, even had hostilities not ceased on Monday last for the American divisions that had mastered the heights which commanded it from the south and southwest had already stepped aside and turned over to the French, as their dear and inalienable right, the honor of entering the city of Sedan proper.

It was a little as though troops fighting their way up through New Jersey toward New York City, had captured Weehawken, captured the Palisades and rested there. When the Americans bowed and stepped aside, Wadelincourt was theirs, and Wadelincourt is really one of the parts of Sedan that is on the west bank of the river. It was to this suburb that the American communique published last Friday referred:

At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon advance they west bank of the First American Army took that part of the city of Sedan which lies on the west bank of the Mense. The enemy's principal lateral line of communique published has Friday referred.

Not only the Rainbow Division, but the First Division—two of the American and hottlescarred in the American and hot server chronicler of the war may set down the details of the Argonne drive, it will be shown, perhaps, that the trantend by a battalion of that still unwitted the parts of the city the success of the Sedan that the "Grartest north" in that battle was attained by a battalion of that still unwitted the parts of the city the success of the search and tailed and the communication of that still unwitted the parts of the Argonne drive, it will be shown, perhaps, that the "Grartest north" in that battle was attained by a battalion of that still unwitted the parts of the city of the west to the communication that the "Grartest north" in that

lown the details of the argume divi-tic will be shown, perhaps, that the "farthest north" in that battle was at-tained by a battalion of that still un-mistakably Irish regiment which used to be the old fighting 69th of New York. But the differences are hair's breadth differences, and very likely the historian really will not care much one way or

AMERICA CELEBRATES
WEEK AHEAD OF TIME
Election Is Forgotten
Early Jubilation Over
Armistice

IBY Caple to The Stars and Stripes.]
AMERICA, Nov. 14—Thursdray of last week we forgot all about the election and engaged in a premature, but otherwise dazelingly successful, elebration of the armistice. After awhile we found that the news that the armistice had actually been signed, was slightly exaggerated, but we permitted no such slight discovery to spoil our day, and the United States cortainly made a noises who had seek we from the interval of the successful celebration of the armistice. After awhile we found that the news that the armistice had actually been signed, was slightly exaggerated, but we permitted no such slight discovery to spoil our day, and the United States cortainly made a noise when the meaning of its brave colors its

had sent limit. After a transpand and sent sent and her great army, he told the colonel what the flag meant, the meaning of its brave colors, its stripes, its sparkling stars. Then he bowed and presented it to the colonel, who, deeply moved, gathered its silken folds into his tight-teinched hand, lifted that hand high above his head.

"The blood of all the world," he said, as every man there rose to his feet.

"Vive l'Amérique!"

Forty-cight years before—400 yards from that spot—Napoleon III had signed his abject surrender.

Late that hight, two platoons of Company D stole down, to the outskirts of the settlement on the west bank of the Meuse opposite to Sedan itself—so close that they could throw pebbles on to the roofs of the silent houses, so close that they could—and did—draw machine gun fire on themselves.

### Height Not Easy to Reach

The heights near Wadelincourt were not easy to reach. The last 24 hours of the American path to those heights were marked by some of the bitterest moments of the Argonne-Meuse drive. The valley that runs northward from Chevenges, commanded by many machine guns and swept by the fire of guns from across the river, will not soon be forgotten by the troops that trod it.

That deadly path was traveled that

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FRANCE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1918.

# FATHER'S CHRISTMAS LETTER PLAN GIVES EVERY SOLDIER CHANCE TO WRITE AND GET ANSWER FROM HIS FIRST C.O.



"THE BOY SAYS-

# MARSEILLES LEADS AS RACE TO BERLIN STARTS WITH BANG Opportunity Given for Men

Southern Port Beats Own General Average by Over 34 Per Cent

# BORDEAUX CLOSE SECOND

Rochefort Just Noses Out Le Havre for Third Honors-**Brest Wants Ships** 

substituted eating for fighting as his principal occupation.
Marscilles's score was 134.301—that is, she unloaded, in the week ending at 6 p. m., November 9, over and above her general average for the previous eight weeks, 34.301 per cent more freight. Gentlemen, we will now rise and sing "La Marscillaise."
But the old nort of Bordeaux was not so far behind. Bordeaux, spurred on by a visit from Major-General Harbord, commanding the S.O.S., came through in second place with 122.707 per cent, the thanks being in some measure due to the efforts of 700 German prisoners there employed.

P.W.'S. Ask to Help

Through their C.O., they sont a letter in German to the commanding general, saying that they would work any time, day or night, in order to do their share. They did; and next week the Bordelais Yanks wager that they will boost that 22.707 of margin to something approaching 50.

At this point it might be well to give the standing of the nine clubs in the standing of the sta

At this point it migne to the standing of the nine clubs in the league, and then tell about their individual trials and tribulations. Here they are, as of 6 p. m. last Saturday: Marseilles 124.30.

Berlleaux 122.70.

### Night Crew Toils Days

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# PACKAGE TIME LIMIT MAY BE EXTENDED

in Line to Get Labels **Back Home** 

Christmas packages for the A.E.F this year may not arrive in every cast until after Christmas but it won't be so long after Christmas as it was last year In order that every package slip give, ut by the Army may have a chance t

out by the Army may have a chance to reach home, the Post Office Department has been asked to extend by ten days the time limit of November 20 allowed for the delivery of the packages to local postmasters in the States.

The men who will chiefly benefit by the extension are those in units that were in the line when the slips were passed out. Many soldiers were, therefore, unable to send slips home in time for them to arrive by November 20.

Preparations are being made to rush the packages to A.E.F. units—if they all come on one boat, it will have to be of 10,000 tons capacity—as soon as they reach France. It is expected that 15 days will be required after the packages arrive at a base port before they will recent all of the units in the A.E.F. [1]

# **CANDY RATION NOW**

Order for Four Million Pounds Has Been Cabled to States

The Q.M.C. has just cabled to the United States an order for 4,000,000 pounds of candy, which will be handed out to the A.E.F. as a part of the

man every ten days. There will be chocolates as well as hard sugar candles in the shipments ordered from the States. The Q.M.C. candy making plants in France have been busily turning out tons of checolate bars and other sugary things, and the candy ration has already been given to troops in certain sections. There's still more good news for the messes, Smoked pork shoulders and loins—not exactly picnic hams, although that would look better in print—have been ordered from the States to be issued at intervals as a substitute for fresh beef and the other meats regularly provided for in the new ration system under G.O. 176. provided for in the new ration system under G.O. 176.

# HOOVER COMING OVER

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] IBY CABLE TO THE STAIS AND STRIPES.]
AMERICA, Nov. 14.—Herbert C.
Hoover, American food administrator, is
going to Europe to organize food relief.
He will retain his present title. Mr.
Hoover will take picked men with him
and also Chairman Hurley of the shipping board to furnish instant information as to shipping facilities.
All government departments will cooperate to advance all the necessary
measures for the immediate care of the
civilian populations everywhere.

# ARMISTICE SIGNED. HOHENZOLLERNS GO, EMPIRE DISSOLVES

Three Facts Stand Out in **Confusion of Dramatic** Ten Days

# GERMANY CRIES FOR FOOD

Suspension of Hostilities to Last 36 Days-Fighting Ends With Allies Beyond Meuse

From all the confusion of the riotou ton days just past, three great facts stand out clearly and irrefutably.

Germany has signed an armistice, the terms of which are now in process of execution.

evolution.

Apart from those facts, there is only modley of reports, some apparently ustworthy, some obviously not, which world must take at their face value

ie New Germany.
As for the revolution itself, come to to nevery German State, and upset in gone petty throne after another, is progressing irresistibly and withou test bloodshed in orthodox German shion. It has been marked thus fa

# Signing the Armistice

It was on the evening of Wednesday November 6, that an official German di-patch, coming through Switzerland, ar nounced that plenipotentiaries had lef Berlin for the Western front for th purpose of concluding an armistice. The party did not reach the Allie

purpose of concluding an armistice.
The party did not reach the Allied lines until 10:30 o'clock Thursday night, November 7. They crossed the sector held by the right wing of General Debeney's Army at the village of Haudroy, north of La Capelle, some 25 kilometers northeast of Guise.

The delegates were received by Marshal Foch at Allied General Headquarters Saturday morning. The armistice terms were placed in their hands, and they were allowed 72 hours—that is, until 11 o'clock Monday morning—to accept or reject them. A courier immediately started back through be lines for German General Headq, ...ters at Spa, southeast of Lidge, in Belgium. Apparently, he returned before dawn on Monday morning, November 11, 1918, signatures were set to the document that suspended hostilities on the Western front—the only front left—six hours later.

# What the Armistice Means

The armistice is not the treaty of peace. It has nothing to do with the final disposition of territory, the fate of kings, the payment of indemnities, it is a purely military affair. It means simply a suspension of fighting for a given period; a state of war still exists. The terms of the armistice (given entries of the armistice (given entries of the armistice (given entries of the armistice).

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November 24 Chosen as Day on Which Whole A.E.F. Will Sidetrack Good Intentions and Get Down to Brass Tacks

SPECIAL DELIVERY PRIVILEGE ASKED FOR

Company Censors and Postal Service Will Speed Missives Just as They Did to Make Army's Mother's Day Big Success

A Christmas Victory Letter to Dad!

A Christmas letter to let the old gent know that we survived the show and are getting along nicely, thank you, to give him our version of how it happened, to remind him that we will be back home some of these days to put our fect under the family table and our upper lip over the fatted pig—the letter, to be brief and truthful; that we've been going to write (some day) ever since, to a scandalous majority of us, we arrived in France.

That's the letter. Now that the Kaiser has done his fading away act and the circus is over, let's interrupt the debate on the transport situation and the possibilities of having to remain in Europe for the next 17 years and write it. November 24 has been nominated by TIES STARS AND STRIPES as "Dad's Christmas Victory Letter Day" for the whole A.E.F., the day upon which every Ancerican soldier in France sits down for a few minutes and concentrates the weak threads of good intentions into the composition of a letter to the best buddy he has in trousers.

### And a Letter in Return

And a Letter In Return

It will be Do It Now Day for the writing of a letter to Dad, Pa, Paw, Papa, Papah, Pop, the Guy or whatever other household designation he sails and finalis under.

Everybody writes to the old man and (this is the best part of it) gets a Christmas letter from him in return. That is the whole scheme. Your newspaper is arranging the second part of it with the aid of the cables and the American news service.

The news agencies have wired over that the Father's Victory Christmas Letters are coming with a lot of hot, first hand war dope and that it behooves all the fathers of European War Veterans to stir the germ of orthography in their good right hand, grab a piece of paper and a writing tool and do the best they can with the material in hand. It's a two-way, reciprocal action proposition. On this side of the water the observance of "Dad's Christmas Victory Letter Day" will be somewhat similar to that of Mother's Day, which is remembered by the weather beaton old timers of one service stripe or more.

On Mother's Bay, May 12, just at the beginning of our fighting season, with all the A.E.F. busy and or its toos, practically every American soldier in France who had a mother wrote to her, and a lot who had suffered the greatest bereavement of their lives wrote to their buddy's mother or somebody else. The sailors in European waters—and they're in on it this time—did likewise.

It Will Be About the Same This Time

### It Will Be About the Same This Time

It Will be About the Same This Time

The result was that a ship landed at an American port late in May with 1,450,000 letters aboard, the greatest shipment of first class mail ever received in the United States from Americans abroad.

It will be about the same this time, with the added cheering factors that we have a lot more to tell now and plenty of time to tell it in. Soldiers who are fatherless are urged to write to someone else's father. Particularly, if a buddy has failen in battle, they are asked to write to his father. There are fathers in the United States for whom this Christmas will not be as merry as it might, for whom even the cries of victory are reminders of grief. They are fathers who have lost sons in this war—whose sons died under the most glorious banner in the world, fightling the most glorious battles of history.

Last May the Mother's Day letters got the utmost expedition in handling on both sides of the water. The company censors, the mail orderlies, the Army Postal Service all did their best. From all the reaches of the A.E.F. the mail was rushed to the postoffice centers and hurried to the seaboard.

It got to America on May 31 and was delivered at the postoffice at 4:05 o'clock on the afternoon of that day. The postal clerks worked all evening and all night sorting and dispatching it. The last bag departed for its destination at 11 o'clock on the morning of June 1. The letters all were treated as special delivery mail and less than five days later all were delivered.

### Postal Service Ready

Postal Service Ready

The postal service will be the same this time. The postal men in France, Army and civilian, have promised equally efficient service and THE STARS AND STRIPES has wired Postmaster General Burleson in the States asking him to duplicate his department's Mother's Day feat with the Dad's leters. Divery of 'Dad's Christmas Victory Letters' to every State in the Union's guaranteed if the letters are in the hands of the Army postoffice on the night of November 24 or soon afterward, and mail censors, mail orderlies, everybody who has anything to do with the handling of mail is hereby urged to get the Dad's letters under way as soon as they can.

The big auxiliary services of the A.E.F., the Y.M.C.A., the Red Cross. the Knights of Columbus and the Salvation Army, have promised the same coperation which made Mother's Day a success.

In the first place, they are going to see that there are paper and envelopes wherever a detachment or group of prospective O.D. letter writers is likely to appear—beaucoup writing material.

The Y.M.C.A. is going after the hardened procrastinators with signs on the walls and a vocal appeal, if necessary. The Red Cross will make special efforts in hospitals. It will provide every soldier with writing materials and, if the soldier isn't able to write himself, a Red Cross worker will do it at his dieself.

soldier isn't able to write himself, a free cross worker win do it at his obtainon.

The Red Cross scarchers who seek out sick and wounded Americans in French and British hospitals will remember the date, too, and have the wherewithal for letter writing with them. Also, the Red Cross, the K. of C. and the Salvation Army will make special efforts in the way of entertainment on the evening of November 24. It probably won't be much of a social function, but there will be some free eating and drinking in some places.

The Salvation Army is going to make a special effort near the late lamented front line. Before the war blew up, they had planned a special paper service for the men in the line but—cest la paix.

Every Dad's letter—to insure it the promptest forwarding to destination all along the line—must carry in the upper right hand corner where we used to write "Soldier's Mail" the following:

FATHER'S XMAS LETTER.

To Save Ink and Time

The "Xmas," as opposed to "Christmas," saves ink and time and will fit in the corner better. It is important that these four words go on the envelope. They will insure it the consideration of a special delivery letter both on this and the other side of the water.

There will be a "Dad's Christmas Victory Letter Ship," just as there was a "May, it ought to break our previous record and land the biggest shipment of mrst class mail matter ever sent home by Americans abroad—the best Christmas present the fathers of the U.S.A., collectively and individually, ever got.

And somewhere on the ocean it ought to meet and pass an eastbound ship, also letter laden, which we haven't presumed to christen, but which might well be named the "Father of Soldiers' Congratulatory Letter Ship." It will be day indignity.

At a western shipbuilding plant several weeks ago a service flag was raised before a gathering of men in overalls. The stars in the flag numbered 138\_Each represented the son of one of the employees of the yard in the fighting services of the United States. There were 98 fathers working in that yard, and it is just one of thousands of big plants back home which has backed very up.

Each represented the son of one of the employees of the yard in the lighting services of the United States. There were 98 fathers working in that yard, and it is just one of thousands of big plants back home which has backed us up. The fathers who stood silently by while that flag was raised are just 98 of several hundred thousand who are in our first reserve line.

Whether it's in a shipyard or a bank, a shell factory or a mine, the old man has backed us up. In the shipyard with the 98 fathers of 138 sons whose lives have depended upon the efforts of the industrial United States it's a safe bet that there hasn't been a slacker. The 98 fathers wouldn't have tolerated one. Yes, our dads have been back of us to a man. They have been inordinately proud of us. Maybe, they haven't displayed their pride often—you know how the old man always tries to hide his feelings. But he feels pretty deeply on some things, and you, bearer of his name on the battle lines of Liberty, have been uppermost in his thoughts ever since you have been in the Army or Navy.

Make It His Finest Christman

# Make It His Finest Christmas

There's nothing in the world he'd like to have so much for Christmas as a letter from you, his boy in the war. To get it, he'd even be willing to tell Mother she needn't think about giving him the usual needtie for Christmas, nor Daughter the usual pair of kint socks, nor Young Son the usual half dozen handkerchlefs. So remember the date—November 24—remember the been set aside by your newspaper in your behalf as the day on which to write a Cirristmas Victory Letter to the Old Man, and, no matter what else befalls that day, be sure to get off that letter to Dad, even if it's only a few lines to tell in that you're well and to wish him the merriest, happlest Christmas he has ever had.

had.

And that's just what it will be if the postman on Christmas morning rings the old home door bell and hands the old gentleman a letter bearing in its upper right hand corner the three magic words—

FATHER'S XMAS LETTER.

Unit commanders, top kickers, company clerks—anybody and everybody who has any control over bulletin boards—is hereby respectfully (that will make them feel good) asked to see that notices of Father's Day are duly posted so that he who runs may read.